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NEWS GLEANINGS.

Twelve hundred cars of lumber and shingles were shipped from Beaumont, Texas, during April.

Fishermen recently from the gulf stream report having seen schools of Spanish mackerel which were unprecedented in number.

Maine capitalists have formed a company, with stock fixed at \$200,000, bought property opposite the City Hall at Hot Springs, Ark., and will erect a mammoth hotel.

Haynesville (Ala.) Examiner: We notice the millions of locusts all over this section of the country. They eat the leaves of trees, grass, etc., but have not bothered the crops as yet.

The late Dr. Henry Hall, who was born in Wilkes county, Ga., in 1798, and died May 10, 1881, was professor of mathematics and astronomy in the State University at Athens, Ga., 1829-1846. He was associated with General Andrew Jackson in concluding the treaty with the Cherokee Indians.

Certain colored military companies have applied for admission into the State militia of Louisiana. These organizations will be mustered in when properly perfected and uniformed, if they pass inspection. The New Orleans States says that one of these companies, the Attacks Guards, called after the first colored man killed on the battle field during the civil war, has existed, in an independent condition, for some time, and bears a fair character for instruction and discipline.

Dr. W. C. Capeheart, who owns two fisheries on Albemarle sound, in North Carolina, told a Herald reporter that he thought the spawning ground of the striped bass or rock fish has been found. It can be definitely located he thinks that the results will be beyond computation, and the rock will rapidly become the most important fish in Southern waters.

Anderson (S. C.) Intelligencer: There is some talk—in fact, a strong probability—that an effort will be made in Anderson this summer to elect a dry ticket, and in view of this movement we are informed that the wholesale liquor dealers residing outside of the State have, by their salesmen, promised to contribute from two to six barrels of whiskey towards controlling the vote in favor of a continuance of license.

Hawkinsville (Ga.) Dispatch: In Deane county last week the editor of this paper talked with the tax receiver of that county. He gave us figures showing that the taxable property of that county had increased in 1880 over 1879 to the amount of over \$118,000, or about twenty per cent. On Saturday last the late tax receiver of Pulaski county informed us that the taxable property of this county had increased during the last four years nearly a half million dollars, or from \$1,250,000 to \$1,750,000. In Telfair county the increase in one year was about \$150,000, and in Coffee county the increase was about \$135,000.

Minden, La., correspondence New Orleans Democrat: Webster parish is noted for an abundance of fish and game. Hundreds, we might say thousands of persons, make it convenient to spend a few days during the spring or summer on the banks of the Dorchete catching fish. The bayou is at these seasons literally filled with cat, buffalo, trout, black and striped bass, white or speckled perch, red perch and goggle eye, pike, gar, turtle, etc. Deer, wild turkey, etc. are so numerous in the flats west of the Dorchete, as to seriously annoy farmers. In the winter season an immense number of wild fowl are found in Lake Brittenham—the various kinds of duck, brant, geese and occasionally a swan. The parish is indeed a hunter's paradise.

Food for Fat People.

There are three classes of food—the oils, sweets, and starches—the special office of which is to support the animal heat and produce fat, having little or no influence in promoting strength of muscle or endurance. If the fat, therefore, would use less fat and more of lean meats, fish and fowl, less of fine flour, and more of the whole product of the grains—except the hulls—less of the sweets, particularly in warm weather, and more of the fruit acids in mild form, as in apple, sleep less, be less indolent, and labor more in the open air, the fat would disappear, to a certain extent at least, with no loss of real health. In food we have almost a perfect control in this matter, far better than we can have in the use of drugs. If we have too much fat and too little muscle, we have simply to use less of the fat-forming elements and more of the muscle food, such as lean meats, fish, and fowl, and the darker portions of grains, etc., with peas and beans.

YEARS AGO.

She was seated close beside me. (On a May day, years ago; Heart of mine, you must not chide me, I was but a boy, you know.)
"The no secret, I'll reveal, Heart of mine, 'twas long ago; That look of hair, I did steal it, I was but a boy, you know."
"Was she pretty? Did I love her? Heart of mine, 'twas long ago; And that pang of loss is over, I was but a boy, you know."
"Was she rich?—now that is funny, Heart of mine, 'twas long ago; What cared I for lands or money? I was but a boy, you know."
"Do I love her yet?—O, often, Precious past, then heart of mine; See, this lock of hair is golden, And the hand that wove it—thine."

THE LOVE LETTER.

"Well, whoever heard the like," cried Fanny Harper, as she entered the parlor and threw herself on the sofa. "Guess, mamma, if you can, what has just happened."

"I'm sure I don't know. Perhaps Sam and Tom have been quarreling. Dear me, what torments those children are!"

"No; they are both at school. Guess again, mamma."

"Well, then, I dare say that odious Mrs. Sharp has been hinting that I wear false hair. False hair, indeed! Then, why—"

"No such thing," interrupted Fanny; "ten times worse!"

"Ten times worse!" cried Mrs. Harper, turning pale. "Oh Fanny, tell me."

"Well," said Fanny, sobbing, "Julia Somers is engaged!"

"Engaged? Well I wonder what people will come to next!"

"Yes, really engaged. If there was a girl in whom I thought I could place perfect confidence, it was Julia Somers. Only a month ago she joined our anti-matrimonial society. Oh, mamma, how can girls be so foolish! Poor Julia!"

"Why, what can you mean, Fanny?" asked a lady who happened to be present. "Is it possible that Julia is about to marry a man unworthy of her? Who is the dreadful creature to whom she is engaged?"

"His name is George something—Thornton, I believe."

"Is he temperate?"

"Mercy, no! How could you think of such a thing? His morals are good enough."

"Perhaps he is an ignoramus, then, or—"

"No, no, no; he is a very fine young man, as rich as Croesus, very sensible, and so handsome! Half the girls in town are doing for him."

"Then why is Julia so much to be pitied?"

"Why, because she is to be married," said Fanny, impatiently (she had turned an old maid's corner).

"I confess I cannot see the great hardship, after all," suggested Mrs. Harper. "But there's the dinner bell."

Fanny declared, however, that she had no appetite for dinner, so to her own room she went to write a long letter to Julia, in which she pointed out the trials of married life, and warned her against the fatal step. What said Mrs. Somers do with this letter? She read it to George, and George twisted it into twenty lamp-lighters, and the twenty lamp-lighters were in requisition on a certain evening of the next week, when Julia ceased to be Julia Somers.

Months passed away and Fanny, at Julia's earnest desire, came to spend a few days with the youthful bride. The bright color and the playful smile still dwelt upon her cheek and lip as of yore, and Fanny might have forgotten that this was not the Julia Somers of her early love had not the apparition of a man's hat and coat in the hall recalled her to her senses.

"Well," thought Fanny, "I'm determined to have as little to do with her husband as possible. Not a word will I speak except when he asks a question, for I am determined to hate him with all my heart."

To her surprise Thornton—the man who married her Julia, who was so handsome, so sensible, so brilliant of love and kindness for every living thing! Flashing in the space of one hour Fanny had opened out her heart to the influence of his thousand and one good qualities, and he understood her. The week passed pleasantly, and Fanny went home and wrote verses.

It was very odd, she thought, and my reader, you must think as she did that certain persons of the masculine gender were constantly interfering with her private reflections. If she walked she feared meeting them; if she remained at home she was sure they would be there to torment her; if she read, the hero of the novelist or historian would take the shape of the Mr. Thompsons, the Mr. Smiths and the Mr. Joneses of her acquaintance; if she visited, what for Fanny? Should she be there? Poor Fanny!

The years of the life of Fanny Harper were many. Her younger brothers and sisters wondered that she had never had an offer, and Fanny herself wondered, and rejoiced—at least she said so. One morning Mrs. Harper and her five daughters were seated together in the parlor, when a violent ring was heard at the door. It was not time for papa's return, but that was not papa's ring. They were all sure. Great, therefore, was their surprise when Mr. Harper, puffing and panting, rolled into the room, bearing high above his head a letter with a great masculine seal.

"A letter from a gentleman, as I know by the flourish he has made on that great M," cried Kate, standing on tip-toe and trying to read the address written on the letter.

"A love letter, did you say?" cried Matilda.

"Oh, its for me then," said Fanny, decidedly.

The matter was speedily settled, however, by Kate, who had contrived to gain possession of the letter, and was reading "Miss Francis Harper" in no gentle voice.

"Give it to me directly, and don't tease me so, Kate," cried Fanny.

"Wait a minute till I've found out who it's from," said Kate, peeping under the seal. "Let me see—Thomas—Thomas! There, do take it."

My dear reader did you ever write, receive or read a love letter?

"Not I, thank fortune," growls the cross old bachelor.

"Nor I," sighs poor Aunt Nabby.

"That's a secret," whispers pretty Ellen.

Well, then to you who know nothing of such matters, an explanation or even a sight of Fanny's letter would be intelligible; and as for you who have already read dozens of your own, you can, of course, feel little curiosity respecting this one. Besides, what right have I to read your Fanny's secret?

Fanny came down to dinner with an air of dignity quite unusual to her.

"Do tell us who the letter was from?" asked Lucy.

"Shall you say yes?" called Sam, from the end of the table.

"Of course she will, and we will be uncles and aunts," roared Tom.

"Thomas, leave the table, directly," cried Mrs. Harper.

"Yes, mamma," said Tom, encouraged by the blushing and titling of the four sisters; "but is it for saying that Fanny would say yes, or that we should be uncles and aunts?"

"Go away, you naughty boy!" and Tom was gone.

When dinner was over, Fanny took her mother aside and begged her to read the letter.

"Well," said Mrs. Harper, after a silence of thirty-five minutes, "a very pretty letter, I must say—but who is this Thomas Somers?"

"Why, mamma," replied Fanny, "I don't exactly remember ever seeing him, but—"

"Ah, well, that's of no consequence. You shall answer this letter directly—just the situation for you. Let me see—lives in the country during the summer months. La, we can take the children and spend at least four out of the year with you every season."

"Dear mamma, you forget that I am at the head of the Anti-Matrimonial Society."

"But that's of no consequence. Only think of your friend Julia—such a nice house—such elegant furniture—such a sweet baby as she has!"

"Yes, Julia seems very happy; and, do you know, mamma, she has really urged me of late to be more charitable in my opinion of gentlemen. After all, I have possibly been to severe."

Fanny retired to her own room to meditate upon Mr. Somers. A tap at her door aroused her from the reverie into which she had fallen, and Kate, with an air of great importance, made her appearance.

"And so, Fanny, you are really going to take this Mr. What's-his-name? You really think, for any reason, that about it, and we have planned out for the dresses and everything; and after you are married you know I shall have your room, for papa says I may. And there's another thing which I must tell you. Oh, Fanny, I hope I shall have a love letter from these days."

Fanny hardly knew whether to laugh or cry, but in spite of the grave face which she found it expedient to put on, several little smiles twinkled in her eyes. "Kato, you are a darling, but I mustn't let you know I think so."

"Well," continued Kate, "have you written the answer? Let me see it, do."

Now, I shan't tell the girls what pretty things you say to him."

"Kato," said Fanny, solemnly—"you must not talk any more about that matter. I confess that it is very hard to disappoint you all and to distress him, but it must be done."

Now, if there was anything that Kate particularly disliked it was to see Fanny shed by anybody for any reason; therefore, as she began to suspect that Fanny meditated some such act, she lost no time in retreating.

When Fanny came to tea she was assailed by a host of questions, congratulations, and kisses from papa, mamma, her four sisters and three brothers.

"How do you do, Mrs. Somers?" asked one.

"Now for the wedding cake," shouted Tom.

Half the failures in life result from the habit of many people have of taking things for granted. The business man assumes that his credit is good; he takes it for granted that his wife knows what style of living his income will warrant; until the logic of addition, subtraction and multiplication proves too much for him, and down comes his business in ruin. The young professional man takes it for granted that veneering instead of solid acquirements will enable him to succeed, because there are so many notorious examples of men's rising and maintaining themselves in public life through pure audacity, native wit, and an utter lack of conscience. He will find too late that it won't do to plan and risk a career by the exceptions rather than the rule. The farmer keeps no account—crops his farm according to the season, or last year's market, or his neighbor's success. 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